

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6299

BILL NUMBER: HB 1012

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 27, 2007

BILL AMENDED: Feb 19, 2007

SUBJECT: Tourist Attraction Signage.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Koch

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Delph

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill:

(1) requires criteria established jointly by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Office of Tourism Development for tourist attraction signage to include a category for a tourist attraction that: (A) is a trademarked destination brand; (B) encompasses sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the register of Indiana historic sites and historic structures; regardless of the distance of the tourist attraction from the highway on which the signage is placed; and

(2) establishes the Tourism Signage Study Commission.

Effective Date: (Amended) Upon passage; July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (1) The bill expands the current signage law to include certain tourist attractions and sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the register of Indiana historic sites and historic structures. All costs of manufacturing, installation, and maintenance to the INDOT for signage shall be paid by the business(es) involved. The fund affected is the State Highway Fund.

(Revised) (2) The bill also establishes the Tourism Signage Study Commission, consisting of 11 members. The members of the commission are the: (a) Commissioner of INDOT or a designee; (b) two members of the Senate; (c) two members of the House of Representatives; (d) Chair of the Indiana Arts Commission; (e) Lt. Governor or a designee; (f) a member of the Indiana Tourism Council appointed by the Chair of the Indiana Tourism Council; (g) an owner-operator of an agritourism business appointed by the Governor; (h) a member appointed by the Association of Indiana Convention and Visitor Bureaus; and (i) an employee of the Division of State Museums and Historic Sites of the Division of Natural Resources appointed by the

Director of the Division of Natural Resources. The Director of the Division of Natural Resources is the Chair of the Commission.

Members of the Commission who are not state employees are not entitled to minimum salary per diem, but they are entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred with the member's duties on the Commission. The fund affected is the state General Fund (Office of Tourism).

Members of the Commission who are state employees, but who are not a member of the General Assembly, are entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred with the member's duties on the Commission. The fund affected is the state General Fund (Office of Tourism).

Members of the Commission who are members of the General Assembly are entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid to legislative members of interim study committees established by the Legislative Council. These payments would come from funds appropriated to the Legislative Council or the Legislative Services Agency. The fund affected is the state General Fund.

The Office of Tourism is to staff and provide administrative services to the commission.

The Tourism Signage Study Commission is to study:

- (1) signs related to tourism and their placement alongside highways.
- (2) the current criteria concerning tourist attraction signage established under IC 9-21-4-5 (b).

The commission is to conclude its study not later than November 1, 2007, and report its findings not later than December 1, 2007, to the:

- (1) INDOT;
- (2) Office of Tourism Development; and
- (3) Legislative Council.

The report of findings to the Legislative Council must be in an electronic format.

Legislative Council resolutions in the past have established budgets for interim study committees in the amount of \$9,500 per interim for committees with fewer than 16 members.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Transportation; Office of Tourism Development; Legislative Council; Legislative Services Agency.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: James Sperlik, 317-232-9866.

